TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, May 15, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended May 10 totaled an estimated 17.0 billion ton-miles, 0.2 percent above the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 19 weeks of 1986 was an estimated 322.7 billion ton-miles, up 0.2 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended May 10 totaled 380,921, down 0.5 percent from last year, and 1.0 percent lower than the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 4.9 percent in the West, but down 4.6 percent in the East, and 4.7 percent in the South.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 14 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. Coal loadings were down by 6,374 cars (5.6 percent) and nonmetallic minerals decreased by 2,323 cars (18.9 percent). Thirteen of the 21 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended May 3 totaled 92,177 trailers and/or containers, 6.5 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 18 weeks of the year was 1,735,669 trailers and/or containers, up 14.8 percent from 1985.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 5/10/86:

	Loadings in Week ended May 10, 1986		Change from Corresponding Week 1985			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	15,478	D	656	4.1	D	2,115	12.0
Other farm products	3,493	I	34	1.0	I	436	14.3
Metallic ores	16,982	D	384	2.2	I	2,314	15.8
Coal	107,903	D	6,374	5.6	D	3,127	2.8
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	15,154	I	820	5.7	I	509	3.5
Nonmetallic minerals	9,947	D	2,323	18.9	D	401	3.9
Grain mill products	10,418	I	276	2.7	I	309	3.1
Food and kindred products	10,691	D	397	3.6	D	635	5.6
Primary forest products	10,236	D	1,414	12.1	I	354	3.6
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,966	I	599	8.1	D	539	6.3
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,393	D	1,087	8.1	D	475	3.7
Chemicals and allied products	25,708	D	614	2.3	I	347	1.4
Petroleum products	4,745	I	118	2.6	I	3	0.1
Stone, clay and glass products	10,450	D	1,204	10.3	D	435	4.0
Coke	5,077	I	109	2.2	D	188	3.6
Metals and products	8,582	D	164	1.9	D	876	9.3
Motor vehicles and equipment	21,602	D	889	4.0	D	534	2.4
Waste and scrap materials	8,171	D	514	5.9	D	144	1.7
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	2,787	D	3,873	58.2	D	469	14.4
All other carloads	73,036	I	16,010	28.1	I	1,705	2.4
LCL traffic	102	D	59	36.6	D	1	1.0
Total Cars Loaded	380,921	D	1,986	0.5	D	3,962	1.0

Corresponding week of 1985 382,907

	1986	1985	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (19 weeks)	7,088,069	7,092,672	D 0.1

Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):

18 Weeks ended May 3	305.7	305.2	I 0.2
Week ended May 10	17.0	16.9	I 0.2
19 weeks cumulative	322.7	322.2	I 0.2

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